

REMARKS

This is responsive to the Written Restriction Requirement mailed July 24, 2006.

Applicants elect Group I (apparatus claims 1-12, 25, and 26).

The Restriction Requirement

The Written Restriction Requirement requires election of one of the following groups of claims for further prosecution:

Group I: Claims 10-17 drawn to a semiconductor device; and

Group II: Claims 1-9 and 18-23 drawn to a process of making a semiconductor device.

Applicants Elect Apparatus Group II

Applicants elect the process claims of Group II for substantive examination.

Claim Amendments

Group I device claims 10-17 are canceled herein to expedite prosecution; however, Applicants reserve the right to prosecute these claims in a subsequent divisional application claiming priority to the present application.

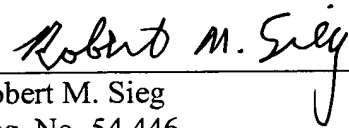
New claims 24-29 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, and are respectfully submitted to belong to the elected Group II. It is further respectfully submitted that new claims 24-29 do not add new matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims 1-9 and 18-29 as set forth herein are in condition for examination together.

CONCLUSION

Applicants elect Group II. Applicants urge that claims 1-9 and 18-29 as set forth herein are in condition for examination together. Applicants look forward to a first Office Action on the merits examining claims 1-9 and 18-29.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert M. Sieg". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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